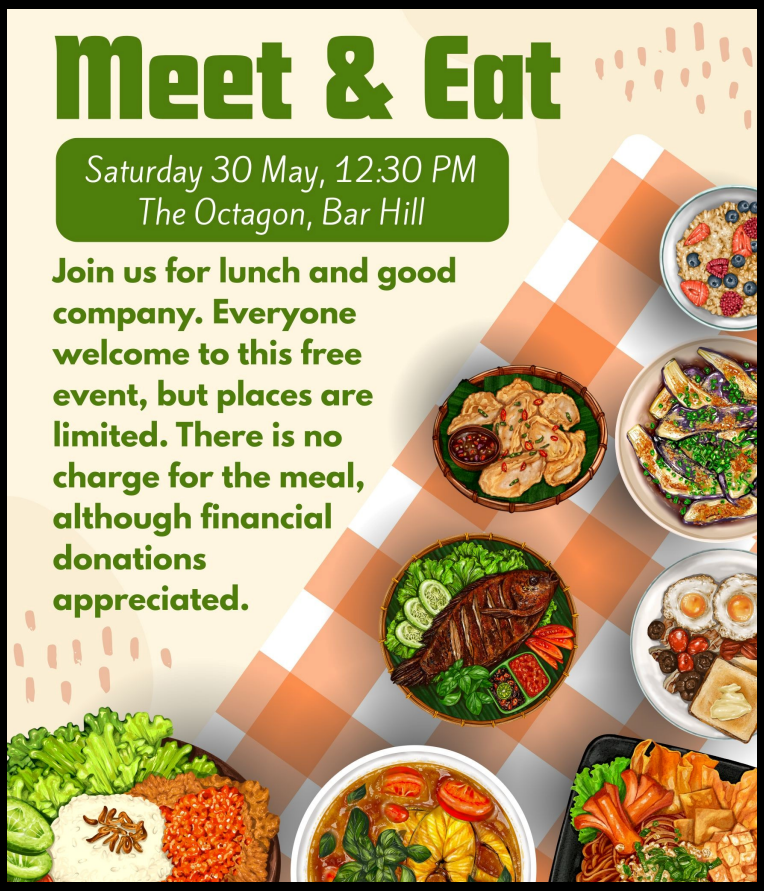
BAR HILL NEWS

May 2026 Issue 680


Meet & Eat
Saturday 30 May, 12:30 PM
The Octagon, Bar Hill
Join us for lunch and good company. Everyone welcome to this free event, but places are limited. There is no charge for the meal, although financial donations appreciated.

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Local Elections – 7 May 2026
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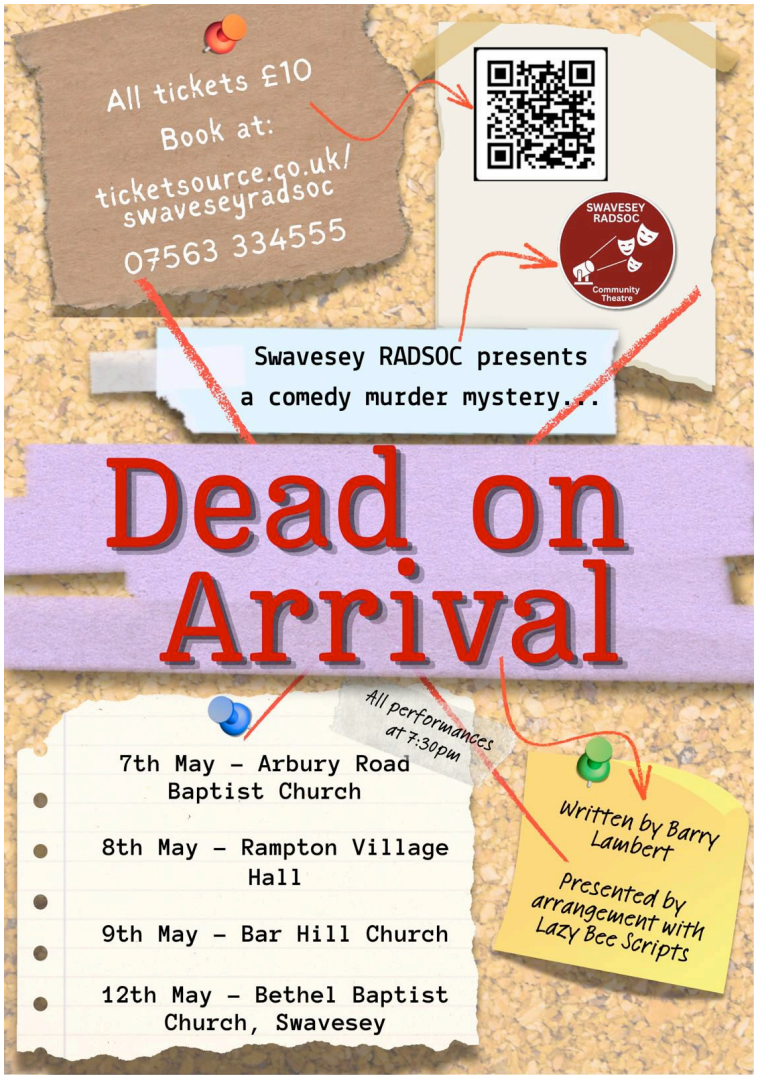
THIS MONTH: Letters & Announcements (p.3 & 5), Bar Hill Childminders (p.7), Community Lottery Update (p.9), Concessionary Bus Pass (p.13), Cricket Club (p.15), Tennis & Pickleball (p.20), Bar Hill Community Market (p.23), Friends of the Rosie AGM (p.25), Bar Hill Primary School (p.28), Skatepark Survey Update (p.31), Parish Council/ Parish Annual Meeting (p.32), and First Lego League Update (p.34).

BHCA

Huge thanks to **Bar Hill Sports & Social Club** (p.36) for contributing to keeping your News in FULL COLOUR!

Published by the Bar Hill Community Association (BHCA) | Registered Charity Number 1195382 | www.barhill-ca.org
Not published on behalf of any candidate or political party.



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We are local with emphasis on employing local staff and we are currently recruiting for Bar Hill and the surrounding areas.

T: Henry **07881591132** or Hassan **07990390399**
E: info@cambridgefullahlifecare.co.uk
W: https://www.cambridgefullahlifecare.co.uk/
Careers/jobs – email: info@cambridgefullahlifecare.co.uk

If you'd like to contact the BHCA then you can either;

- Write to us at **Parish Council Offices, Hanover Close, Bar Hill. CB23 8EH**
- Email the Chair of Trustees at **chair-of-trustees@barhill-ca.org**, or

We meet monthly on the second Tuesday at 7:30 pm in the Fox. If you'd like an agenda please get in touch!

Help! We're Missing Something

Maybe it's an article by a group you support? A bit of local news? Or even details of an event? Let us know! Deadline for our June issue is **Thursday 14th May**.

Opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the Association.

There is no charge for Articles, What's On, For Sale or Lost and Found. These appear at the Editor's discretion.

LETTERS, NOTICES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please send your letters & notices to **bhn-editor@barhill-ca.org**. Thank you!

Bar Hill Indoor Bowls Club

We meet in the school on Friday evenings during term time only from 7.30 pm to 9.30 pm with a 1/2 hour break for coffee. We are a very friendly group and we would love to have some new members. It doesn't matter if you have never played before just come along and join us one Friday, the cost is £3 per week but the 1st week is free.

Please note there will no bowls on Friday 1st May due to a school disco.
If you would like more information please contact me on **01954 204171 / 07847 327709** or **barbara.page@live.co.uk**

Bar Hill Catholic Mass

Mass will be held in Bar Hill Church at 6pm on Saturdays. Our services are open to all and everyone is very welcome to attend. If you have any queries please call Bunty Waters **07734 690580**. Our local parish priest is Father Adrian Gates, from OLEM, Ditton; he is also the Hospital Chaplain - **07842 190882**. Contact Bunty Waters for more info.

Happy Hours 50/50 Auction

Friday 15th May 2026

Bar Hill Sports and Social Club, 2 – 4pm

50% proceeds to Happy Hours club funds

50% proceeds to Arthur Rank

Lots of household items, toys and games

AND SO MUCH MORE!!!!

Come along to try and bag a bargain, find a treasure or pick up a Christmas pressie or two

Any donations for the auction gratefully received

Contact:
Anne Plumb | anne@rwp10.plus.com
Tel: **07790 306922**

Bar Hill Church Knit &Natter Group

Thursday 1.30 until 3.00p.m. in The Octagon.

We are a well- established and a popular group who are keen and committed to knitting items that help others in need, and meet to knit and make new friends, produce some fantastic baby clothes, blankets and knitted toys etc., and enjoy tea and cakes together, and sometimes just chat and share stories.

As part of our programme we encourage the ladies to take part in some simple helpful and fun exercises designed to improve general welfare and to keep their fingers and joints moving well, and boost their physical and mental health.

Our present knitting programme is to produce baby clothes and blankets for local new young mums with limited resources, and also blankets for people in the village who may have health or welfare problems and need a helping hand or a kind gesture. We try to respond to any group or individual who needs this help.

New members are always very welcome and find it helps to have a regular group to attend weekly and are always happy to find new friends to chat to and share their “ups and downs” their interests and achievements.

All the wool and patterns are available for the ladies to use. So there are no financial obligations. However contributions of wool from friends and neighbours are very welcome!

During the year we have extra events like craft sessions, tea parties and some outings.

Want to know more? Drop in and see what we are doing any Thursday afternoon or for more information give me a ring. Sue Kenchington **01954 780260**. Hope to meet you soon!

The deadline for submissions is the second Thursday of the month.
Please send your article to **bhn-editor@barhill-ca.org** (PDF, Word, Pages, etc)

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Bar Hill HAPPY HOURS Club

The Bar Hill Happy Hours club meets in the main bar area of the Bar Hill Sports and Social Club between 2 and 4pm on Friday afternoons for tea/coffee and cakes, getting together with friends, fun and games. All of this for only £2 per person. The bar is open if you want something extra.

Coming in May

1st May Baltic/Polish theme
8th May Bingo and a quiz
15th May Games and a quiz
22nd May Bingo and a quiz
29th May Italian theme
5th June Bingo and a quiz
12th June Games and quiz

For further information please contact Anne Plumb | **07790 306922** | anne@rwp10.plus.com

8 o'clock Club

The club is a women's group and we meet in the school on the 1st Thursday of the month at 7.30 pm.

At our meeting on the 7 May the speaker is Susan Widlake from Mill House Millinery. She will be showing us how she makes the flowers for her hats and we will all be able to attempt to make one! Tickets will be on sale for the garden party on Thursday 4 June.

Our fee is £15 per year to join and then we make a charge at each meeting to cover the cost of refreshments and a raffle.

We welcome new members to the club. If you would like to join please come along to one of our meetings or phone Barbara **204171** (**07847 327709**), Adela **204265** or Ann **204687.**

Dear Editor, RE: Puzzle Solutions

The solution to last month's puzzle is;
Across - 1.Tipperary. 6.ballistic. 7.spotlight. 10.oversized. **Down** - 1.tabasco. 2.pal. 3.edibles. 4.art. 5.yachted. 8.ore. 9.Gaz

This month's puzzle can be found on Page 19. Hope you enjoy it!

Keith Morris

Protect Hospice Care

Thanks to our amazing community the nine beds at Arthur Rank Hospice's Inpatient Unit, which were under-threat from closure on 31 March 2026, can remain open for another 12 months for patients. The Charity, would like to say thank you to everyone who has supported their 'Protect Our Care' campaign.

CEO, Sharon Allen, OBE shared: "The removal of the funding has been a significant worry. We continue to be grateful to those who have rallied around us and committed to financial support for the next 12 months whilst we seek stable funding options. Local people deserve the outstanding care our colleagues can offer, and we are grateful that, for now, we are in a position where beds are not reduced. We must find long-term, sustainable funding for hospice care on a national basis. We do not want to be in this same position in a years' time. The future is still uncertain, and the ending of this service would, without doubt, have huge implications for our local community and must be protected at all costs. This is a welcome but temporary reprieve until March 2027, so our work doesn't stop here. Over the coming months we will continue to explore new sustainable funding opportunities and plan for increased fundraising needs. Our next step is to look at different service models and how these could be funded, accepting that unfortunately there are no guarantees this will be possible. Our thanks, as always, go to our supporters and our outstanding team of staff and volunteers who continue to care and support each family who come through our doors. Offering dignity and personalised care to each patient is what makes every moment count." Please visit arhc.org.uk/POC for more information.

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Bar Hill Childminders

Bar Hill Childminders are all graded 'Good' on their latest inspections, are fully insured and hold Paediatric First Aid and Safeguarding training. We are registered with Ofsted and have enhanced CRB checks. We offer quality, caring, home from home care with a wide range of exciting experiences for the children in our care, both in our homes and in the local community. We regularly go on walks, outings and attend local groups to help the children socialise. We have our own childminding group on a Wednesday morning that is open to all local childminders. The group is a chance for us to catch up and support each other and for the children to play with a larger group of children.

We find having a wide range of ages benefits all the children in our care, it helps the younger children's confidence and encourages the older children to be patient and understanding with the younger children, helping them learn and progress.

We accept all Government funding for eligible parents and the Government Tax Free Childcare payments.

As we are busy during the day with the children, please text us your enquiry with details of your requirements and we will contact you as soon as possible with our up to date availability and hourly rates.

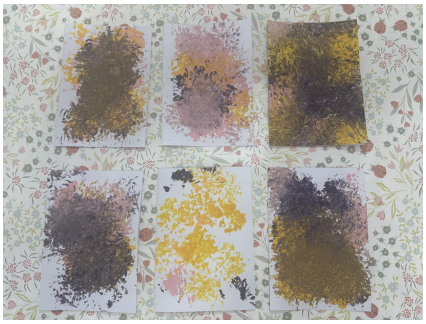
Jacky – **07718447998** – ages 6 months upwards. Term time only and all year round care offered. Current availability - wrap around spaces for school aged children available now. Monday – Thursday for an under 5 from Sept 2027.

Kirsten - **07906218070** – ages 6 months upwards. Term time only and all year round care offered. Spaces available from September 2027.

Eszter Horwood – **07783436921** – ages 6 months upwards. Term time only and all year care offered. Current availability is a permanent space on Thursday and Friday 8-5 and a temporary space from

Feb to end of Sept.

In March we celebrated World Book Day by sharing our favourite books, we also visited the library now it has re-opened and enjoyed the Monday Stay and Play sessions. We walked over to Dry Drayton for their monthly coffee morning and enjoyed some yummy homemade cakes. We had a good look in the pond on the way to see if there was a crocodile in the water but we couldn't see



one, this time!

We made cards and presents for our Mummy's for Mothering Sunday. We used flower heads dipped in paint to create some beautiful cards.

We also travelled a bit further, visiting Johnsons of Oldhurst, bowling and pool at Pidley, soft play at Huntingdon and Ely, hired a bouncy castle in Fen Drayton with some other childminders, the cinema and had a treat at McDonalds. We also made pizzas for lunch and made our own playdough!

In April we have enjoyed some St Patrick's Day crafts and Easter fun with crafts and visits to Denny Abbey, the Easter trail at Wimpole, Johnson's of Oldhurst and looking at all the daffodils at Anglesey Abbey.

We're looking forward to warmer weather and more fun outside in May.

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CAMBRIDGESHIRE COMMUNITY LOTTERY

Each month we will be keeping you up to date with our progress in raising funds through the local Cambridgeshire community Lottery. **THE GREAT NEWS WE HAVE IS THAT UP TO THE END OF MARCH THE PEOPLE PLAYING THE LOTTERY FOR BAR HILL HAVE ALREADY RAISED OVER £600** *(which is nearly 50% of the original target we set)*

Why play the lottery?

Support good causes!

60% of your ticket purchase supports local charities and community organisations.

From your £1 ticket, your chosen cause will get 50p and Cambridgeshire Community Foundation will receive 10p to support other causes across the county.

Win great prizes!

Cash prizes range from £25 to £25,000.

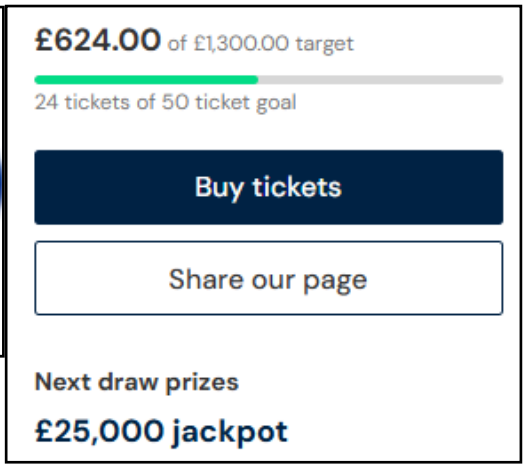
The lottery offers a 1 in 50 chance of winning a prize, and a better chance of winning the jackpot than the National Lottery!

Support your local community!

Every good cause supported by the lottery will benefit Cambridgeshire and its residents.

But we could do so much more for our village (Like the Village Clock, the New Playground, we provided and the forthcoming Skatepark, and lots more for you to have pride in being a part of Bar Hill etc.), with **YOUR** help.

To support BHCA who have now been approved as "Good Cause", Sign up and buy Cambridgeshire Community Lottery tickets, where you have a much greater chance of winning than most other lotteries.



Tickets cost just £1 per week with a chance of winning up to £25,000.

And the great news is that 50p from every ticket goes directly to a good cause which you chose (*we hope that would be BHCA of course*).

If you want more information then please feel free to contact any of the BHCA Trustees or Volunteers and they can advise.

Just visit **http://www.cambridgeshirecommunitylotteryco.uk/support/find-a-good-cause** and select Bar Hill Community Association as your chosen "good cause" when you purchase your ticket(s).

Hedgehog Fact: The species we see in the UK is the European Hedgehog.Once common, they are now seriously in decline across both rural and urban areas. They are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.

BOBS May 2026

Welcome to the males in Bar Hill.

What is BOBS? We stand for Bar Hill Old Boys. BOBS is a replacement for Crafts Shed that after 5 years of operating as a Charity, the painful decision was taken due to lack of accommodation to disband as a Charity.

What do we do? We meet on Thursdays in the Octagon Meeting Room between 0945 and 1130. We may just chat, play chess, or some play Table Tennis. Occasionally some may go for tea/ coffee or lunch afterwards. It is a great group to be a member of. Don't be on your own when you may be able to make new friends.The next trip out will be to Denny Abbey and Farm Museum.

For further information contact Nick Gunton on **07484 255514** or Chris Stannard **07711 623425**

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BAR HILL
OLD BOYS

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6 May/ 3 June /1 Jul /5 Aug /2 Sept /
7 Oct/ 4 Nov /2 Dec

Cambridgeshire Deaf Association **01223 416141** or enquiries@cambsdeaf.org for enquiries & volunteering opportunities.

Bar Hill Memorial Garden

Spring is here and the days are getting longer, the bulbs and the Spring Flowers have begun really showing themselves. The recent tidy up has made a real difference. We are now aware that some grasses may have to be replaced this year. Thank you to all who helped.

If there are any gardeners keen to help in this project please contact Chris below.

My grateful thanks to all who continue to donate towards the upkeep of the Memorial Garden, cheques / cash may be left at 7 Acorn Avenue made payable to Bar Hill Memorial Garden or alternatively paid directly into Bar Hill Memorial Account at the Cambridge Building Society 1768402740 Sort Code 20-17-55. Thank you once again to all those who have given financial support for this work, in particular for the donation recently paid into The Memorial Account at the Cambridge.

Should you wish to place a Memorial Plaque then contact Chris Stannard **01954 781978**, **07711 623425**, **c.e.stannard1@gmail.com**

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- Have good contrast with the background
- Not be taken from another ID document or existing pass
- Not be AI-generated or digitally edited (filters or alterations will be rejected)

In your photo, you must:

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- Not wear sunglasses or tinted glasses
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Bar Hill Cricket Club

It's finally here – by the time you read this we will have started (weather permitting) our season a level above last year, in the CCA Junior League 3W.

Our first fixture was scheduled on 25 April – a rare match before May – against Steeple Morden, one of three home league matches on Saturday in the opening month or so of the season. Highlights will be published in next month's Bar Hill News.

We have to wait a bit longer for our first Cambs Business Houses League, which is on 26 May against RSC (that's chemists, not Shakespeareans!)

The midweek matches start at 6pm and all our fixtures are at home – support from the balcony or the pitch-side is always appreciated.

We've blown off the winter cobwebs at our first training sessions on the village green – they will continue to be held from 6pm on Wednesdays throughout the season - new players welcome.

If you are interested in playing, or getting involved in the club some other way, get in touch via info@barhillcricket.org.uk or on the number below, or follow all the latest in the Bar Hill News and on our website at barhillcricket.org.uk or on our Facebook page.

May fixtures: 2nd: Over & Willingham (A, CCA), 9th: Needingworth (H, CCA), 16th: Godmanchester Town II (A, CCA), 23rd: Haslingfield (A, CCA), 26th: RSC (H, midweek) & 30th: Madingley II (H, CCA)

Paul Stimpson | **201212** | info@barhillcricket.org

EVERGREENS

FREE sessions for those with **memory problems**

Where: The Octagon - opposite Maple Surgery

When: 4th Monday each month, 10 - 11.30 am

What: Come and enjoy coffee, cake and a chat. There are themed activities or crafts designed to promote memories & conversation, ending with a short session of seated exercise.

Find out more: 01954 206 120 (Centre Manager), ask at the surgery or pop into the Hub any Monday

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

We meet in the Octagon on the 4th Thursday of the Month, at 7.30pm. Everyone is welcome.

Dates for 2026 meetings are: *June 25th Summer social event, July 11th Fete table, August 27th Normal meeting with quiz, cheese and snacks and a raffle, and AGM October 22nd.*

If you are interested in joining or would like further information or help, please contact either Wendy Arrowsmith on **01954 781381** or Malcolm Cox on **01953 488657**.

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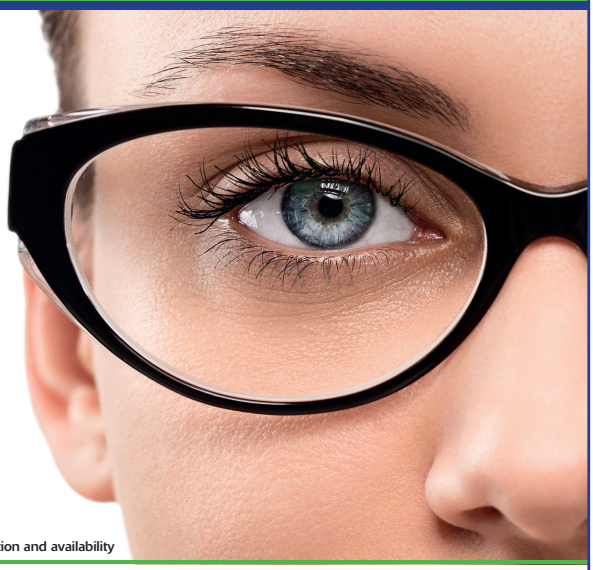

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Bar Hill Library - May 2026

National Year of Reading

As part of the National Year of Reading, we are inviting people to recommend books which others might enjoy. Thank you to everyone who has recommended books for others to read so far. We have an ongoing display of books which have been recommended – please come in and take a look. If you have any suggestions, please fill in one of our slips and post it in our box.

National Databank

Bar Hill Library is part of the National Databank scheme. If you are on a low income, you could be entitled to data using a free sim card. Please ask at the desk for more details.

Weekly Rhymetime

Every Tuesday, we have a Rhymetime from 2.30pm to 3pm. This is aimed at babies and pre-schoolers. We sing well-known rhymes, use percussion instruments and enjoy sharing music together. All are welcome, there is no charge.

May Bank Holidays: We are closed for both bank holidays this month; 4th and 25th.

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01954 782892 | enquiries@barhillpreschool.co.uk
www.barhillpreschoolcio.co.uk

Welcome back to all our families after the Easter half-term break. We hope you had a wonderful time together. As we move into April, we are continuing our learning around adult and baby animals, as well as exploring the lifecycles of insects and amphibians. Later this month we will also be celebrating World Earth Day, building on our ongoing activities that help children learn how to care for and protect our planet.

During the final week before the break, the children were very busy creating Easter cards and gifts for their families. We hope you enjoyed receiving their handmade surprises.

On 9th April, we hosted our Easter Craft Session, which was very well attended and a lovely social event for families. Children enjoyed a range of Easter-themed activities including egg colouring, an egg hunt, and biscuit decorating, while adults enjoyed tea, coffee and delicious homemade cakes. Thank you to everyone who joined us and to those who helped host the event. It was wonderful to see both new and familiar faces. Please keep an eye on our social media and posters around the village for future events.

Last month we asked, "Can you guess the book?" We are pleased to reveal that the answer was The Gruffalo by Julia Donaldson. Congratulations to everyone who guessed correctly - it remains a firm favourite!

We offer places to children from the term after they turn two. We accept 2-, 3- and 4-year-old funding and are also part of the Tax-Free Childcare scheme. For more information, please contact us.

We are currently taking bookings for September 2026.

BAR HILL BIN COLLECTION DATES

DATE (*Thursday unless notified*)	BLACK BIN	BLUE BIN	GREEN BIN
Thursday 7th May	✔		
Thursday 14th May		✔	✔
Thursday 21st May	✔		
Thursday 28th May		✔	✔
Thursday 4th June	✔		
Thursday 11th June		✔	✔
Thursday 18th June	✔		

You can also add Bin Collection dates to your mobile/ tablet computer for automatic reminders!

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www.greatercambridgewaste.org/find-your-household-bin-collection-day

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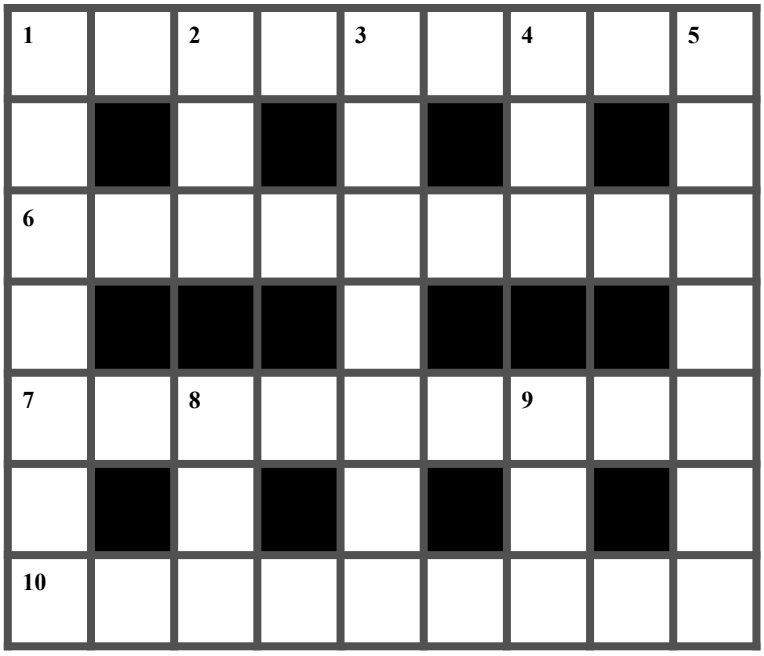

PUZZLE for May 2026

Across - 1. Cheese from Normandy. 6.UK Irishman. 7.temporarily blinded by light. 10.enlargement.

Down - 1.topping for fruit dessert. 2.a woman's title (bar) 3.caller at the mosque. 4.large tree, now rare. 5.on the right wavelength. 8.point of colour. 9.Hawaian garland.

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BAR HILL TENNIS & PICKLEBALL CLUB

The season's in full swing and it's great to see people out on the courts at club times or occasional bookings. If you want to learn pickleball, just come along to one of the club times.

Once again, we're planning to run an open day session on the afternoon of the village fete, and a session for children (accompanied by parents) in the first week of the school summer holidays.

Many thanks to those who joined the working party to clean up the courts in preparation for the spring/summer season.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership details for 2026-27 are available on our website. There is an active WhatsApp group for members to share information and find playing partners.

TAKE CARE

We are currently seeking funding to resurface our ageing courts as the surface is breaking up in places leaving loose gravel on the surface. So anyone playing should take care, and particularly check that the courts are suitable for play after rain.

OCCASIONAL PAY & PLAY GAMES

You can book a pay & play game using the court's tennis or pickleball nets and your own racquets/paddles and balls. Go to https://barhilltennisclub.co.uk/book.

CLUB TIMES

Our Adult Club nights for social tennis are Tuesdays and Thursdays starting at 6.30pm.

Our Adult Club times for pickleball are Monday evenings starting at 5.30pm (beginners 5.00pm), and Friday mornings at 10.00am.

CONTACT

Paul Chubbuck | chair@barhilltennisclub.co.uk

Richard Lewney | secretary@barhilltennisclub.co.uk

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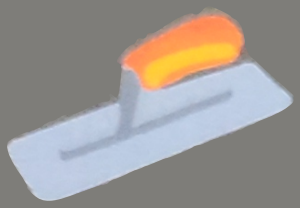

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Helping Hedgehogs in May

a Crucial Time for our Garden Visitors

May is one of the most important months in the hedgehog calendar. After surviving the challenges of hibernation, hedgehogs are now active, feeding, and entering their breeding season. At this time of year, they need safe spaces, reliable food sources, and our awareness more than ever.

You may notice more activity in your garden at dusk - snuffling in the undergrowth, rustling leaves, or even the distinctive circling behaviour of mating hedgehogs.

Food and Water: a Simple Way To Help

Providing food and water can make a real difference, especially in urban and suburban areas where natural food sources are limited.

What to offer:

- Meaty cat or dog food (wet or dry)
- Hedgehog-specific food
- Fresh water in a shallow bowl

What to avoid:

- Milk (this can make hedgehogs seriously ill)

A shallow dish of water is particularly important during warmer spells.

Hidden Dangers In May

As gardening activity increases, so do the risks to hedgehogs:

- Check long grass before mowing/ trimming
- Bonfires – piles can become nesting spots; move them before lighting
- Slug pellets and pesticides – these can poison hedgehogs
- Netting and litter – can trap or injure them

Taking a moment to check can save a life.

Make Your Garden Hedgehog-Friendly

You don't need a large space - just a few small changes can create a safe haven:

- Leave areas a little wild with logs, leaves, or long grass
- Create a hedgehog highway (a small hole in your fence for movement)
- Provide a quiet nesting area
- Avoid tidying every corner - messy areas are valuable habitat

What About Baby Hedgehogs (Hoglets)?

From May onwards, mothers may have nests hidden in gardens.

- Avoid disturbing piles of leaves or compost heaps
- If you find a nest, leave it undisturbed
- Only intervene if a hoglet is alone, injured, or out in the day for prolonged periods

If in doubt, contact Liz Dams **07912 988898** / Shepreth Hedgehog Hospital **07947 361187**.

Every Garden Matters

Hedgehogs are sadly in serious decline across the UK, but the good news is that individual actions really do help. By making your garden safer and more welcoming, you are directly supporting their survival.

Even small efforts - putting out water, checking before mowing, or leaving a wild corner - can make a garden part of a network of safe spaces.

Wildlife Friendly Gardening in May

May is one of the busiest months for garden wildlife. Hedgehogs are feeding and breeding, birds are nesting, and insects are thriving. Help by offering water, avoiding chemicals, and checking before mowing or strimming. Leaving a patch of your garden a little wild can provide vital food and shelter, making a real difference to local species.

During spring and early summer, birds are actively nesting in trees, hedges, and dense shrubs. Disturbing or cutting these areas can destroy nests and is a wildlife crime under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. It's best to avoid trimming or clearing vegetation at this time and always check carefully before carrying out any garden work.

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Bar Hill Village Hall

The large Main Hall has multi-purpose vinyl flooring, making it flexible for all types of events. There is a kitchen alongside the Hall with a serving hatch, making it useful for self-catering at parties, discos and the like. The licensed bar can be booked on request and will be serviced by the Sports and Social Club. The Hall opens out onto a large patio area that is ideal for external activities or a spill-over for internal events and has two bolted gates that lead off the premises.

There is also a Meeting Room, with its own independent access and great for meetings of up to 10 people.

The Village Hall is managed as a registered charity (number 1002579). To book, please visit our web site **barhillvillagehall.com** and email **enquiries@barhillvillagehall.com** to confirm arrangements.

Alternatively, call **01954 782414** and leave a message. We aim to return calls within 24hours (Monday to Friday).

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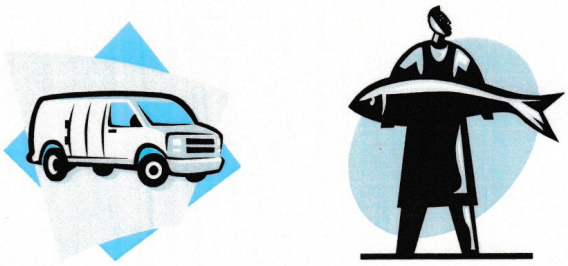

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Blocked Drains by Anthony Mitchell

Blocked drains are a common but frustrating problem for residents in Bar Hill, particularly during periods of heavy rain. When drains become blocked by leaves, mud, litter or debris, water can quickly build up on roads and pavements, increasing the risk of localised flooding and creating hazards for pedestrians and drivers. Standing water can also lead to longer-term damage to road surfaces if not dealt with promptly.

In Bar Hill and across South Cambridgeshire, responsibility for clearing blocked drains depends on where they are located. Drains on public roads, pavements and verges are generally the responsibility of Cambridgeshire County Council as the local highways authority. These issues can be reported online through the council's highways reporting system - **https://tinyurl.com/7znaa3ve**, allowing maintenance teams to inspect and clear the blockage where needed.

If the blocked drain is on private land, such as a driveway or within a property boundary, it is usually the responsibility of the homeowner or landowner to arrange repairs. Problems with sewers, rather than surface water drains, should be reported to Anglian Water, which manages public sewerage in the area - **https://tinyurl.com/mtzvewfa**.

Residents are encouraged to report blocked drains as soon as they notice them. Early reporting helps prevent flooding, protects local infrastructure and keeps Bar Hill's roads and pathways safe for everyone.

OVER DAY CENTRE

SATURDAY LUNCH CLUB

our next lunch is on Saturday, May 23

Welcoming all residents of Over and surrounding villages to join us for lunch at the Day Centre on the fourth Saturday of each month, service starting at 12:30 following the Memory Café

to book your place or for more information
email: saturdaylunchclub@overdaycentre.co.uk
www.overdaycentre.co.uk/whats-on/saturday-lunch-club/
or please call: 01954 231807 or 07710 694900

FRIENDS OF THE ROSIE

Our next in person stall is at Bar Hill Community Market on Saturday 23rd May 10am to 1pm in the Octagon.

With your help we have raised £1,245 so far in 2026 to help make the Rosie a more comfortable environment.

The AGM of the Friends of the Rosie was held on Monday March 2nd 2026 at 1.00pm

CHAIR'S REPORT – Mary Ferguson:

In 2025 we have not had any requests to buy equipment for the Rosie. The Hope boxes and the Scanner are now being used. The lights for delivery unit will be placed in rooms soon.

We would like to thank Avril for all her hard work with Rosie in Stitches and doing stalls around the community.

We have just had kind donations of £500 from PEM and £210 from a Crib Drive which took place at the British Legion Histon. The winner chose a charity and this lady recently had a granddaughter born at The Rosie.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Total expenditure in 2025 was £23,906.46 and total income was £5,484.74. In 2025 a scanner was purchased costing £26,400.

ROSIE IN STITCHES - Avril Williams:

We have lots of crafters making items for the wards at the Rosie Hospital as well as selling items at village markets and online. We had stalls at 10 community markets. Lots of customers chatted with us about themselves or their babies being born in the Rosie.

We have put more articles in the blog section of our website. If you have an article to include there please get in touch.

We were approached on behalf of students who would like to help by knitting, crocheting and sewing for their Duke of Edinburgh Award challenge.

One of our customers bought cardigans to embroider designs onto them.

One of our regular customers commissioned some more items. Commissions in 2025 were a baby blanket, three pairs of trousers and another dog coat. Special thanks to Anna and Tara for raising £130 and Sue, Pat and Avril for completing them.

We entered our Foot Loose and Fancy Tree at the Landbeach festival in November and the Stapleford festival in December.

We have raised £1,270.79 gross in 2025, making £820.81 after expenses for insurance, online fees, postage, mobile phone contract, Sumup machine fees.

We are benefiting from having an online presence, where donations at the checkout via PayPal brought in £12 and via Benevity where we received donations of nearly £95.

We have nearly 2,000 secondhand items for sale on our Ebay store rosieinstitches2010. We have items of clothing and toys for sale on our website **www.rosieinstitches.org.uk**

Avril is our main fund raiser now and in her absence, very warm thanks were sent to her for her fantastic enthusiasm for the Rosie.

REQUESTS FOR PURCHASES

1) Community nurses would like us to purchase 8 iPads which would enable them to write notes as they are talking to their patients rather than having to hand write notes to be typed up later in the day. Writing the notes while with the patient would both save time and improve accuracy and aligns with the digital responsibilities of the Trust. Total estimated cost will be up to £8000.

2) A lot of work to Bereavement services is being carried out now eg decorating rooms, building ensuites etc. They may come back to us later for items like tea and coffee facilities.

3) Improvement works going forward: Transitional care which would create a half way house between birth and neo-natal care: Trial of induction in the Birth Centre for mums who are post birth date and low risk.

AOB:

Knitted hats are still wanted – red, green, yellow but they must be good newborn baby size not too small and easy to pull on. These could be left with Christina on main reception or Tara receptionist in the Birth Centre.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Monday March 8th 2027, 1.00 pm

IAN SOLLOM MP NEWSLETTER

Sign Up To Receive an Email Newsletter at **Iansollom.Org/Emails**

Changes to Indefinite Leave To Remain

I have written before in the Bar Hill newsletter about the Government's damaging proposals to retrospectively tighten requirements for Indefinite Leave to Remain (ILR), and I know this remains a big worry for those who will be directly impacted, as well as their friends and family.

I recently held a community meeting in St Neots that was attended by over 70 people from across the constituency holding many different visas – from Health & Social Care Worker, Global Talent, ECAA and British National (Overseas) – all of whom had written to me with their concerns.

The Government's claim that these reforms will encourage better integration in our communities is absurd. How can people integrate when they can't commit to buying a house, when their children won't be able to attend university on home fees, and when their finances will be further squeezed by paying further NHS surcharge and visa renewal fees? These are the very real worries that families expressed to me, and they are the questions I continue to raise with the Home Secretary.

We should hear the outcome from the Home Office consultation soon, and I will continue to work alongside my Liberal Democrat colleagues to press the Government to change course on these proposals.

If the proposals are to go ahead, the Government has significant questions to answer about their implementation. There were many contradictions and unclear rules raised with me at the meeting, and I will be following up on all of them.

PIP Review – Have Your Say

The Government's review into Personal Independence Payment (PIP) benefits has announced it is now taking evidence from the public. I urge anyone claiming PIP, or carers, friends and family to contribute their views.

The Timms Review, launched after the backlash to the Government's plans to cut Universal Credit and PIP, runs until the Autumn and looks at the role and purpose of PIP, the eligibility and fairness in its award, and people's experience of claiming it.

You can find the call for evidence at www.gov.uk/government/calls-for-evidence/timms-review-of-personal-independence-payment-call-for-evidence

I continue to work closely with local organisations supporting members of our community with disabilities, and I will continue to make sure their views are heard by the Government.

If you would like to contact me, please email **ian.sollom.mp@parliament.uk**, visit my website **www.iansollom.org**, or alternatively you can follow me on X: @IanSollom, Facebook **www.facebook.com/IanFSollom** or Instagram **www.instagram.com/iansollom**

Buttercups CHILDCARE LTD

Bar Hill Day Nursery and Out of School Club

www.buttercupschildcareltd.co.uk

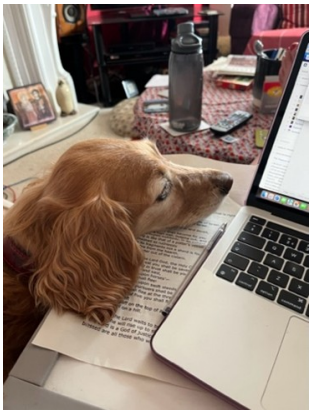
Bar Hill Day Nursery is based in Gladeside, Bar Hill. We are open 7.30am – 6pm, Monday to Friday, 50 weeks per year. We have spaces year-round or term-time for children aged 4 months to 4 years. Please contact the Nursery for more information or to arrange a visit. **Phone: 01954 488081 Email: info@buttercupschildcareltd.co.uk**

Bar Hill Out of School Club is based in the building next to Bar Hill Primary School. We offer Before and After School care and Holiday Club for Primary aged children. We are open 7.30am – 8.45am, 3pm – 6pm Monday to Friday and 8am – 6pm during school holidays. For more information or to make a booking please contact the Out of School Club: **Phone 01954 200814 Email: oosc@buttercupschildcareltd.co.uk**

Bar Hill Church News

Services for this month may be viewed on our website barhillchurch.org.uk

Do you struggle to get out of the house - or know someone that does?



Did you know you can join Bar Hill Church online?

Thanks to the miracle of modern technology, we can livestream the service each **Sunday morning at 10am** and anyone can view it via Teams: follow the QR code to our website (www.barhillchurch.org.uk) and the link is on the front page.

When you click the link, you'll be 'let in' by a friendly congregation member who will say hello and make sure you feel welcome before the service begins.

You can send messages in the chat and arrange for a home visit if you are new to worship.

We also have a **prayer meeting online** – (almost) **every week day morning** from 8.15-8.30am. Using the same link, you can join others for a short liturgy with readings and responses- and a time of prayer. You don't have to say anything at all if you don't wish to…and you can even join in your pyjamas….most of us have a cup of tea or coffee in our hands! if you have something you'd like us to pray for, please get in touch.

If you don't have Teams (an easy, free download) or you'd like some help getting online…email wendy@barhillchurch.org.uk or (if you are able) drop into the Hub on a Monday morning and chat to one of our friendly volunteers. **Hope to see you (online) soon!**

Church Office: Ian Farr, 01954 206120, church.office@barhillchurch.org.uk

Enquiries about hiring space for an event should be directed to Ian.

Minister: Revd Wendy Wale 07780 828865

minister@barhillchurch.org.uk follow us on

Bar Hill Primary School

TREE DONATION

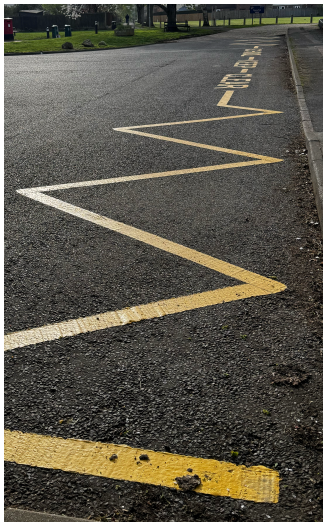
Before Easter, we donated a selection of tree seedlings to Bar Hill Parish Council. Over the coming months, the Parish Council will be nurturing these seedlings until they are ready for planting.

Once established, the trees will be planted around the village by the children working alongside members of the Parish Council a wonderful opportunity for them to contribute to their local environment and see the impact of their efforts grow over time.

We look forward to sharing updates on this project later in the year.

KEEPING OUR COMMUNITY SAFE

Our JTA were delighted to see work begin on the new parking restrictions, with the first zigzag lines being painted. These new markings will help improve safety for children and the wider community during busy drop-off and pick-up times.



We are continuing discussions with the Parish Council about extending these safety measures to other parts of Gladeside.

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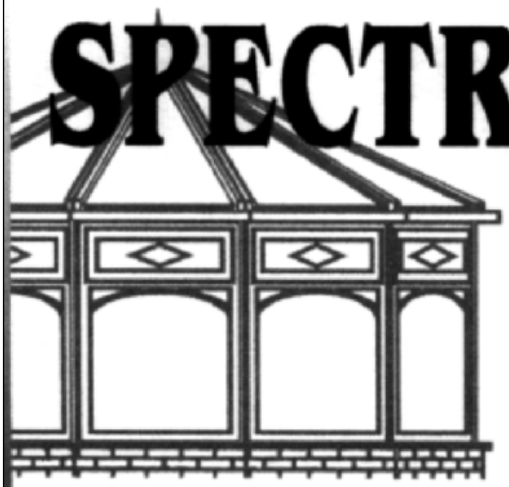

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BAR HILL COMMUNITY LITTER PICKING!

SATURDAY 30TH MAY

10.30AM – 11.30 AM

MEET AT THE PARISH COUNCIL OFFICES

ALL AGES WELCOME

EQUIPMENT WILL BE PROVIDED

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Little Treasures!

Exploring God's big story together

Wednesday mornings term time

Refreshments 9.00 am

Main session 9.30 - 10.30 am

ALL WELCOME

There is no cost for this group.

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PUBLIC CONSULTATION DROP IN

The skaters of Bar Hill have spoken with the recent results from the survey into desired park features which concluded on the 30th of March. Along with the usual requests (Mini Ramp 73%, Quarter pipe 67%, Bowl 57% and Flat banks 48%) skaters also offered some very considerate suggestions such as the need for an art space, water fountain and toilets near by as well as beginner-friendly features to help build confidence; small ramps, progressive quarter pipes, flat ground space and low rails.

Results also clearly showed a preference for a skatepark suitable for skateboards with 66% of responders saying they rode a skateboard, compared with 20% BMX, 17% scooter and 14% skates. Maverick Skateparks, the company tasked with the design and build of the new park, are using the results of the survey to create a final design which will be presented to the Annual Parish Meeting on the 28th of May.

Follow us on Facebook at Friends of Bar Hill Skatepark to keep up to date!

Bar Hill Open Gardens

The National Open Garden Scheme was founded in 1927 with the objective "to open gardens of quality, character and interest to raise funds for nursing and health charities". The Regional Organiser is keen for Bar Hill to join the scheme to increase the number of smaller open gardens. Smaller gardens are typically open as part of a group open gardens event.

As some of us are aware there are arguably some exceptional gardens hidden across the village. The 60th anniversary of the foundation of Bar Hill in 2027 would provide an opportunity for these gardens to be seen by others. To meet this deadline the Regional Organiser will need to accept the gardens into the scheme by the end of June this year.

If you would be interested in exploring the opportunity to open your garden I would be delighted to hear from you. Please don't be shy.

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BAR HILL PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council Office, Hanover Close, Bar Hill. CB23 8EH
Chairperson: **bunty.waters@barhill-pc.gov.uk**

Annual Parish Meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting will take place on Thursday 28 May at 7pm in the Octagon. There will be a presentation by the task group to update residents on the progress of the Skate Park. There will also be a chance to hear what other village clubs and organisations have been doing over the past year, and what is planned for the future.

This is the forum for you to speak about your ideas on how to make Bar Hill a better place to live and work, and ask questions of your County, District and Parish Councillors.

Play Park

There have recently been a number of incidents of vandalism to the new play equipment. This has included minor fire damage, broken eggs and graffiti. This is very disappointing and clearing up comes at a cost to residents.

Grass Cutting

This has now started again around the village. Please could dog owners take extra care about cleaning up after your dogs on the grassed areas.

Litter Picking

A big thank you to all those that take time to pick litter around the village and those who have joined the monthly litter picks.

If anyone would like a bag & litter picker to use when they have time, please contact the Clerk on **01954 780456** or **clerk@barhill-pc.gov.uk** to collect from the PC office.

Potholes

Please report potholes or any other highways or footpath issues on Cambridgeshire County Council's website.

Fly Tipping

Please can residents not Fly Tip their rubbish as this involves a considerable cost (£120) to residents and comes out of the precept. If you would like to give away free items, please put them within your property boundary and not on public/private land.

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COUNCIL MEETING DATES

Environment and Amenities Meeting
6 May - 7pm in the Parish Council Office

Full Council Meeting
21 May - 7pm in the Parish Council Office

Annual Parish Meeting
28 May 2026 - 7pm in the Octagon

Olive Tree Bereavement Group

Have you lost your special person?

Are you struggling with your grief, not knowing where to turn?

Olive Tree Bereavement Group meets every second Saturday at 10.30 in the Octagon opposite the surgery. We are a welcoming and supportive group who have all experienced the loss of a loved one. If you are coming for the first time if you could arrive at 10.00a.m.

Whether your bereavement is recent or it has been some time ago, we are here to help. It's a time to listen and to talk in confidence with others who understand.

'Since my husband died, I have really appreciated being part of this group. Everyone is so supportive. I've cried and laughed and have felt I am not alone as I come to terms with my new life' (member of the group).

Everyone is welcome. If you would like to know more, please contact our experienced CRUSE leaders, Sue Kenchington on **780260** or Chris Stannard on **781978** or come along to one of our sessions.The dates for the next two sessions are 9th May and 13th June.

Weekly playgroup sessions for babies and preschool children

A range of toys and play equipment with fun activities including crafts, singing, sensory play and story time

Thursday Morning 9:45-11:15am*
at the Octagon, Bar Hill

*term time only

Taster session Free, Further sessions - under 1 £2, over 1 £3, 2 or more children £4 refreshments and snacks included

We look forward to seeing you at our next session

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DOORS OPEN 12 NOON

May 3rd
Riverside Jazz Band

June 7th
The Rocking Chair Jazzband

Admission £12.00
Fully Licensed Bar. Large Dance Floor. Tea/ Coffee & Fresh Rolls Available.

For further information call Rosie-Val on **01954 789670**

BAR HILL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION FIRST LEGO LEAGUE

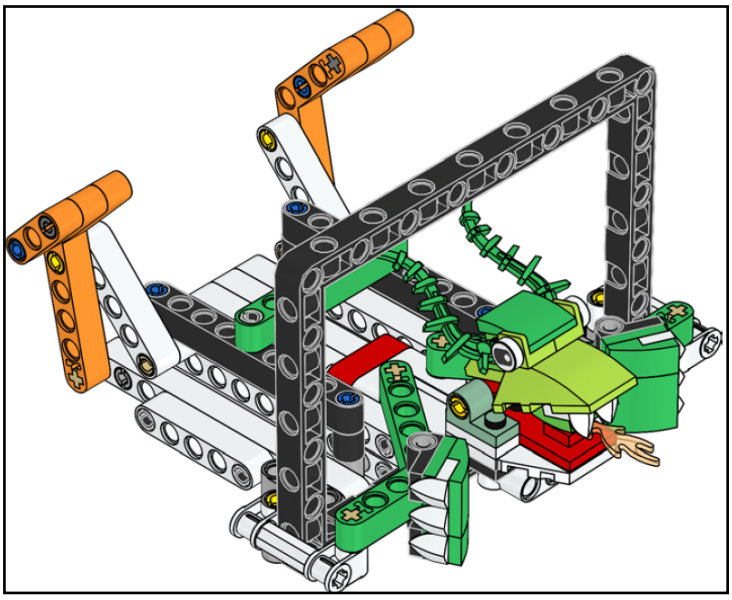
As you saw in last months BHN we completed our first venture in Lego League with the kind help of **BUTTERCUPS** Out of School Club (special thanks to Shannon, who assisted us and the children) with our competition day. Many Parents and friends of the children came along and were amazed at the skill showed by the children at programming a Lego Robot to perform tasks/ missions, and amass some pretty impressive scores, whilst dressed in their own designed t-shirts.

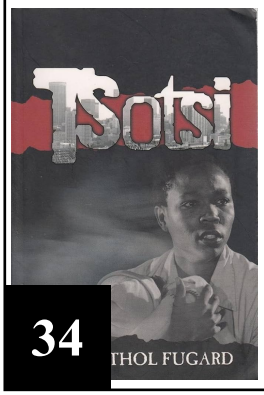
Well we can now announce that a local school **(PENDRAGON Primary school at Papworth**) have finally come forward and taken up the challenge, and we will now be supporting them on their adventures in this exciting STEM based activity.

We have already provided them (on loan) two Robot and expansion sets (as shown here), and have also provided them with 2 play-mats and lego model kits with models like the 3D cinema dragon. They are also going to take the two competition tables we had made to really put them through their paces.

We are now seeking a local company to sponsor us to be able to enter one of the National Finals, and really put us on the Lego map.

We will of course bring you news as we proceed and hopefully we can can get support to return to bring this to the children in Bar Hill soon"





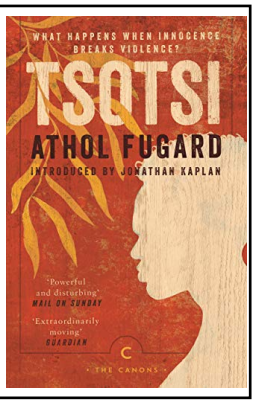
Bar Hill Ladies Book Club

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 12th May at the Social Club, time 19.30. This month's book is ***Tsoti by Athol Fugard.***

We are a friendly group of ladies who love to read & share our opinions & thoughts.

Please join us, you will be so welcome.

Please email Julie (**julie45172@outlook.com**) for information.



May/June 2026 Timetable

Every Monday, 10-12 (unless otherwise listed) in the Octagon (opposite Maple Surgery)
The Hub is for people of all ages as a place to gather & enjoy community!

4 May	Coffee Stop Foodbank Advice Sign-posting Chess, traditional & 5Aside versions	MAY BANK HOLIDAY - NO HUB TODAY
11May		Carers Café - 10.00 - 11.30
18 May		NO Health & Wellbeing today
25 May		Evergreens 10.00 -11.30
1 June		Health & Wellbeing - 10.15 - 10.45
8 June		Carers Café - 10.00 -11.30

WHEN: Every Monday 10am – 12pm. Please note that there will be **no** Community Hub on Monday 4th May, early May Bank Holiday, but the Community Hub and Evergreens **will be** open as normal on the late May Bank Holiday on Monday 25th May.

WHERE: The Octagon (opposite Maple Surgery), Bar Hill, CB23 8EH

WHAT: Our vision is to create a fairer and friendlier community, so everyone can thrive and knows where to turn to for warmth, welcome, friendship and support. The Hub is a busy gathering space, providing a warm, comfortable, welcoming space for our entire community. Come along and join us, we look forward to seeing you!

Coffee Stop: Pop in for a coffee, a piece of delicious home-made cake and a chat with friends!

Foodbank: No need for any vouchers. If you are struggling financially, drop by and let us help you, available between **10.00 - 11.30 am.**

NEW SERVICE: HUB ADVICE DROP-IN: Available from **10.00 - 11.30 am** on Mondays with Kevin. Just call into the Community Hub during this time and we will be pleased to point you in the right direction.

Evergreens: a safe space for those with memory loss to enjoy: Conversation, Connection, Celebration. Accompanied by a carer, friend or family member. When: usually 4th Monday of each month.

Health & Wellbeing: On the 1st & 3rd Monday, take advantage of some exercise guidance from our experienced coach (starting at 10.15am).. However, please note that there will **no** Health & Wellbeing sessions during May; these will resume on Monday 1st June.

Carers Café: On the 2nd Monday of the month, providing support for any carers in the village, even if you are not a patient of Maple Surgery.

Meet a Parish Councillor: you can meet one of our Parish Councillors to discuss any issues within our village, between 10am and 12pm on the 4th Monday of the month. Just look for the sign within the Coffee Stop.

Traditional & 5Aside Chess (within the Coffee Stop): A great way to connect and start a conversation with people happy to teach you this wonderful game. Come along and join us for refreshments and a chat!

Your Community Hub…in the community, by the community, for the community!

Bar Hill Sports & Social Club

Follow us on Facebook & Instagram

We are a family friendly members' club in the heart of the village.
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